

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1075

By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to recognize Larry Collins of Portland.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the health, welfare, and economy of their fellow citizens and their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such esteemed person who has been a genuine asset to his community is Larry Collins of Portland; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong citizen of Sumner County's northern-most municipality, Mr. Collins is one of six children born to Maurice and Lorelle Collins and is a 1951 graduate of Portland High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Collins is a businessman who has devoted his years of industry to economic growth activities, and has especially focused on commercial construction and industrial site development in Sumner County and the surrounding counties; and

WHEREAS, his earliest endeavors centered around farming, but Mr. Collins quickly developed an affinity for bulldozers and other heavy equipment, repairing old ones to amass his first fleet of earth-moving machinery; and

WHEREAS, one of his first enterprises, the Portland Municipal Airport development project, was underwritten by a personal loan to him and a local business partner, and it has evolved as a vital transportation link for investors over the years; and

WHEREAS, among the various industrial renovation and construction projects in which he has been the sole or primary developer are the Knight Metalcraft Building, which was his first industrial building erected in Portland, the Garcy Manufacturing facility, the building that houses Hospital Disposables, and the Albany International Building, which was the first industry to occupy the North Industrial Park; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Collins' contribution to the industrial tax rolls for Portland includes more than nine-and-one-half million square feet of industrial building floor space covering more than eight hundred acres of real estate, along with ninety-four million dollars in real property and more than forty-seven million dollars in personal property; and

WHEREAS, his business interests notwithstanding, Larry Collins is a humanitarian within his community. He has donated to the development of the Portland Public Library, the Portland Chamber of Commerce, the Wanda Collins Amphitheatre in Richland Park, Volunteer State Bank, and the First Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, he is perhaps proudest of the love and support he shares with his wife, Wanda, and their children and their spouses: Joey and Kathleen, Johnny, Jeffrey and Robyn, Jaska and Johnny, and the late Jason and his widow, Tammy; and

WHEREAS, along with Mrs. Collins, Mr. Collins proudly enjoys the love and affection of seven grandchildren and two great-grandsons; and

WHEREAS, a master of industrial development and a highly successful businessman who deeply loves his hometown and Middle Tennessee, Larry Collins has endeavored to increase job opportunities, bolster economic development, and enhance the comfort and livability of his community, and the successes he has achieved have greatly benefitted the growth and betterment of Portland and the surrounding areas; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and commend Larry Collins for his numerous contributions to economic growth and development of Sumner County and the surrounding areas. We wish him every continued success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.